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CLUB NEWS

SOUTH NASSAU YACHT CLUB

The South Nassau Yacht Club, Inc., Seaford, N.Y. held its annual 4th of July picnic at Zach's Bay. A great time was had by all. The club sponsors social and fishing events each month. During June the club entered two boats and a crew of twelve in the Bayshore Mako Shark Tourney. During July the club plans to hold its Fluke Fishing Contest. Other clubs or individuals wishing more information, please call Jim McNally (516) CA1-7765.

Notable Accomplishments

Jim McNally of the South Nassau Yacht Club, while fishing his "CLAIRE J" on June 25 managed to haul in a 119 lb. blue shark and a 9½ lb. bluefish. Jim fished approximately 35 miles south of Jones Inlet in 110 feet of water, course 165°. The fish were weighed in at the Naomi Inn Fishing Station, Seaford Harbor, N.Y.

BABYLON TUNA CLUB

FIRST SHARK OF THE SEASON!! Ray Wittmann does it again. For the second year in a row Ray bags the first shark of the season while fishing aboard the Kathy Queen. The first shark caught by a club member weighed 88 lbs. and was a Blue.

FIRST BLUEFISH OF THE SEASON!! Gary Schneider, not to be outdone by buddy Ray, landed the first bluefish of the season aboard the Whopper Stopper. The winning fish went 8 lbs. 8 oz.

LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS OF NEW YORK

Despite the steady downpour of precipitation at Stump Pond (Blydenburg Park, Smithtown) on Sunday, June 2, 1974, members of the Long Island Bassmasters during their first seasonal tournament worked every type of structure available with top water plugs and spinner baits for the many twelve-inch black bass that reside in its water.

Early in the contest feminine shrieks from Celeste Lorfanfant of New York City and Baldwin resulted in a huge seven pound six ounce black bass that took largest and overall winner of the contest. Celeste is no novice in the angling field as she is a field testor for Jim Bagley Bait Co., Winter Haven, Florida.

A five pound bass taken and released alive by John Schroeder of Commack placed second in the contest.

Third place went to Mickey Milligan of Commack who edged out Scott Green of Plainview by ten ounces as his fish were alive and released and Scott lost two fish to the great beyond through no fault of his.

The B.A.S.S. "do not kill your catch" program has been instituted into all the club contests. Fish alive

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 9, Number 26 July 11th, 1974

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ABOUT THE COVER: When stripers side-swipe a bait, the result is often side-hooked fish. Read Dr. Muller's article "Striper striking Strategies" on page 8, this issue.

PUBLISHER
Rich Reina

EDITOR
Glenn Voparil

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
Mike Zarrella

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Stu Miller

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Scott Simons

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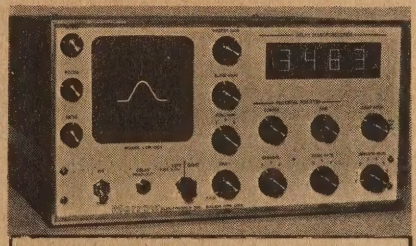

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and released earn one point per pound at the weigh in.

SHINNECOCK MARLIN & TUNA CLUB, INC.

The Juniors outfished the Seniors in the Shinnecock Marlin and Tuna Club's annual weakfish tournament in May. First place trophy went to Junior, Richard Furman, for a six pound four ounce fish, and Michael Forman took second with a four pound fifteen ounce fish.

In the Senior division, Ken Turco took first place with a six pounder, with second place going to Fred Havemeyer for a five pound six ounce fish.

Trophies were given at the club's well-attended June first dinner-dance held at Gold Crest Manor in Southampton.

A short meeting was held and the club voted to eliminate trophies for any caught tuna, but will give points for tagged and released tuna, with a trophy going to the angler with the most points.

Don't forget the dinner meeting on July twentieth.

FORMATION OF NEW CLUB ANNOUNCED

We are pleased to announce the forming of a new fishing club. Our club, The Northwest Fishing Club of Long Island, has recently held its first election. The results were as follows:
Tom Sherry of Hicksville, President
Billy Lomnicki of Levittown, Vice President
Bob Bertram of Hicksville, Treasurer
Dan Martin of Jamaica, Secretary
Jack Passie of Massapequa, Contest Chairman
Bill Kraynak of Holbrook, News Release.

Our club will be dedicated to the development of sport fishing.—Billy Lomnicki.

CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS

BAY SHORE MAKO TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Babylon Tuna Club won this year's chapter of the Bay Shore Mako Tournament when it nosed-out the defending champions, the Oakdale Sportsman Club, by a slim five pound margin. Scoring one point per pound for all sharks except the mako, which counted two points per pound, the Babylon Tuna Club scored 2035 points to Oakdale's 2030. The Baldwin Rod & Gun Club placed third with 796 points.

The first day of the tournament was cancelled due to rough sea conditions. But when the cancellation order came over the air at 8 a.m. many boats had already left the inlet and many fishermen decided to make a day of it anyway. Ninety-four sharks were taken including a tackle-busting dusky of 400 pounds, which would have been the largest shark of the tournament if Saturday's fishing hadn't been cancelled.

Harvey Langabeer of Oakdale was the individual winner for the heaviest mako shark, 294 pounds; second was Richie Norton, 236 pounds; third was Ted Pendergast, 235 pounds. Largest blue shark of the tournament was a 244 pounder taken by Jerry Rekhart of Babylon. Geri Kaich of Babylon topped the women's division with a 248 pound blue shark.

On Sunday, 131 boats sailed and weighed in 297 blue sharks, 36 mako sharks and 30 miscellaneous shark species including several small Great White Sharks.

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN OPEN SHARK TOURNAMENT

The Third Annual Open Shark Tournament, sponsored by the Montauk Marine Basin, will be held on July 20th and 21st. Entry is open to any individual. The entry fee is $75.00 per boat and includes 2 cans of chum and one slab of bait each day. Boats may use additional bait if they wish.

All participating boats must be at least 24 feet in length and be equipped with an operational ship to shore radio. Boats cannot leave Montauk Marine Basin before 6 a.m. and must return no later than 6 p.m. for weigh-in on Saturday and 5 p.m. on Sunday. A barbecue will be held Saturday evening for participants, consisting of mussels, clams on the half shell, steamed clams, corn on the cob, chicken, beer and music and dancing to an orchestra.

For additional information and applications call or write to Capt. Carl Darenberg, Jr., Montauk Marine Basin, West Lake Drive, Montauk, N.Y. 11954 (516) 668-5900.

EASTERN SHARK $7,000 TOURNAMENT

The Premier Anglers, Inc., is sponsoring the Eastern Shark Tournament to be held on August 24th and 25th, 1974. Cash prizes of $7,000 will awarded, including $3,000 for the largest shark and $2,000 for the greatest total weight of sharks taken during the contest. Entry fee is $200 per boat and bait and chum is provided. No boat restrictions. For entry blanks and further info. write to Premier Anglers, Inc., P.O. Box 151, Bohemia, N.Y. 11716.

EDITORIAL

We recently received a letter from one of our readers in which the author listed a number of grievances he had heard: grievances that dealt with various aspects of the content of this magazine. The gentleman did not want his letter published, and we will honor his request. However, we do hear, during our wanderings, similar comments from some of you, so it now becomes time for the editor to air one of his gripes about the readers.

The Fisherman is in its ninth year of publication. In that period of time, its staff has been accused of being pro-or con-various categories of fishermen in what seems to be a never-ending cycle. Today we are in that phase called "pro-boat fishermen". Of course, when a person is said to be in favor of something, the automatic assumption is made that he is opposed to something else; in this case, it is claimed we are against surf fishermen. What immature nonsense!

Taking a quick peek into the magical formula by which this publication operates, we see that articles are printed each week. For these articles to appear, they must have been submitted by their writers, n'est-ce pas? If we tend to favor stories dealing with boat fishing, it means that this is what has been sent in to us. Conversely, the scarcity of surf fishing articles indicates that surf fishermen are not submitting copy.

The Fisherman has been successful so far due to our belief that fishermen become better through, and by, sharing their knowledge with others who will, in return, expose what they have learned. The end result is the development of an increased awareness and, therefore, enjoyment of the sport, as well as the creation of better fishermen. No magic in that, is there?

Many surf fishermen alter the application of this concept somewhat in that they consider themselves the elite of the angling fraternity, and, as such, are in some strange way entitled to all of everyone else's knowledge without sharing any of their own. The secretive behavior is frequently compulsive in nature, and they constantly spy on one another to learn the currently hot locations, tides and lures without themselves being caught in the act of catching fish. Terrific! if that's what turns you on, to coin a contemporary phrase.

The problem is, the sharpies of the surf (and boat) are the ones who complain the most about us not divulging other sharpies' closely-guarded secrets.

Caught in the middle of this farce are the beginners and those fishermen of modest ability; which is to say, about 90-95% of our readership. They're the ones who are really being hurt, because most of the top surf fishermen won't help them become better fishermen and enjoy their sport more thoroughly.

In the midst of this castigation, it is absolutely encumbent upon me to personally thank all those who have submitted articles to us, whether or not the articles were published. These are the fishermen who are willing to share with others; They're certainly not doing it to become rich.

I fully expect to receive a barrage of letters from surfmen, telling me how wrong I am, and how much help they are offering others. Of course there are exceptions; I'm talking about the majority. Eventually, though, I will receive a letter that will ask "What could I possibly write about for other surf fishermen without disclosing all of my hard-won secret information?"

I'm glad you asked that, Buster! The following is part of a potentially unlimited list of topics the experienced surfman can write about—without telling everyone his secret lures, methods and locations:

Setting-up an efficient beach buggy

Choosing the proper foot wear

Rigging a surf belt

Reading water

Locating potential hot spots

Popular standard lures and how to fish them

Safe night fishing

Cartop (or trailer) boats for the surf

Safe surf launching and beaching

Fishing a rocky (sandy) shore.

This list took me about one minute to think of and write. Imagine what a surf pro could think of! And he wouldn't have to reveal his personal secrets, either.

What I'm doing is offering a simple challenge to those gripers out there. The time has come to either put-up or shut-up; it's that simple. We're not living in fantasy-land, and we'll only get out in rewards what we are willing to put in, in effort. You don't have to be a marvelous writer; that's why we have an editor. Write to him to find out what we require and how much you'll get paid. And, for Pete's sake, stop that infernal, crybaby-type grousing!

(Next time, I'll complain about something else.)

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BAY BUM:

Navigating The Bays

Or, How to Get from Here to There Without the Sandbar

by Tom Franza

Simply defined, navigation is the art of getting from here to there without ending up somewhere else. In the bay it is often nothing more than how to get to your favorite fishing hole, or to your favorite beach or marina. If you are like most bay bums, however, the real fun comes when you leave your normal haunts in search of new parts of the bay to explore.

In case you should get lost while trying to locate a new area, never blame it on someone else while you wander aimlessly. This is an obvious fallacy and can readily be seen through by the naivest member of your crew. In fact, it is usually your six-year old daughter who will first come up to you, proclaiming in a loud voice for all to hear: "Daddy, how come you're going so slowly? Are we lost again?"

You can avoid this particular problem by keeping the boat at its normal cruising speed. Doing this enables you to convey the impression that you know exactly where you are going.

Never circle; always zig-zag! In the event you are questioned by anyone on board your actions can be quickly explained away. Merely state that you know the area very well and are avoiding the unmarked bars.

A commonly practiced method of navigation is the following of someone else, who happens to be going in the same general direction that you wish to go. Just be certain that his draft is greater than yours. This way, in case anyone is going to run aground it will be him and not you. It is very embarrassing should he clear an unsuspected sandbar and you don't.

Whenever available, ferrys are usually your best bet. They follow the most direct route, have a nice deep draft, and your boat is moving so fast that no one could possibly suspect you don't have the foggiest idea where you are going. In fact, if you can, stay about a quarter of a mile behind. Then, not even your wife will suspect that you are following him.

This entire problem, however, can be totally avoided through the proper use of charts. Charts are rather simple to use; and, contrary to popular belief, it is not necessary that your middle name be Ahab or Queeg.

Remember the three R's of navigation when using your charts and you shouldn't land on too many sandbars—"Red, Right, Return." Just don't forget the return part means coming in from the sea. When presented with two buoys (a red and a black) split them like a field goal.

Lighted buoys, of course, show up in nightime navigation. These become slightly more complicated and it is better that you take a power squadron course before testing your evening navigational skills in strange waters. Even familiar waters can suddenly become unfamiliar at night the first time out. Your best bet is to either get home before dark, or cruise only in relatively deep waters at night.

When running a course, it is an excellent idea to make a note of the compass's heading on your charts. Add 180 degrees to the figure and you will have your return course. These notations can also be used at any future time as a handy reference.

Another good idea is to look for landmarks. Although our Long Island bays are long, they are only a few miles across at their widest spots. This usually allows the operator to see the shoreline and any reference points he can use. Such directions as, "Head straight for the water tower," or "Stay to the right of the lighthouse," are usually as accurate as a compass heading. About the only time you will need your compass on a familiar course will be when it is too foggy or dark to see ahead clearly.

In the open ocean no one will deny the importance of loran, sextant, radar, or any of the other aids to navigation. But in the bay even the most primitive navigational gear is acceptable. Charts and a properly installed marine compass are good enough. On a clear day you can see far enough ahead to "Go to red number 4 and make a sharp left." In fact, we once found our way along the inside route from Bay Shore to Montauk Point and back using only charts, a jury-rigged compass, and some elementary school geography.

It was over a Memorial Day weekend a few years back and our skipper at that time, Don Del Duca, managed to shanghai three of us onto a full-blown shakedown cruise for his new boat by

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claiming it was to be a four day fishing trip. The compass started to go during the first few hours and, from there on in, it was catch as catch can all the way. Eventually, our compass was so out of wack that through a 360 degree turn, the needle moved only a total of 10 degrees to the east.

Don boxed-in a small hand compass and, using this, we made out just fine through every conceivable type of weather that could be thrown at us. Yet during this entire trip we never went aground or got lost. The only time we were the slightest bit unsure and questioned our judgement at all was when we hit a pea soup fog in Peconic Bay.

While this may certainly not be the most desirable method of navigation, it does show how easy navigation can be in the bay, even during the most adverse of conditions.

Use your charts to tell you the depth of the water and the positioning and location of the buoys. Then it is only a matter of going from buoy to buoy in a stepping-stone fashion. It is kind of like when you used to play connect-the-dots as a kid. Only now, your pride is at stake. Not to mention your prop if you hit a sandbar.

Once you get to a particular channel, never be surprised at the type of markers that are used to indicate its passage. Up until two years ago the infamous Snakehill Channel in Great South Bay was marked by dead trees stuck into neighboring sandbars. Wooden arrows were then attached to these trees to point the way. This method is still used to mark some privately maintained channels. So, if you should see a medium-sized dead tree sticking out of the water, slow down. It sure as the devil didn't grow there.

Always remember to:

1—Use your charts;
2—Check your compass heading;
3—Keep your eyes peeled for marker buoys;
4—Notice and refer to shore-based landmarks when running on a frequently-used course;
5—Slow down in unfamiliar shallow waters;
6—Use extra caution when running at night; and,
7—Red, Right, Return.

Follow these few basic rules, and you shouldn't get into too much trouble. Follow the wrong boat, and you might end up in somebody's backyard.

(Coming next: In Search of the Fruits of the Bay)

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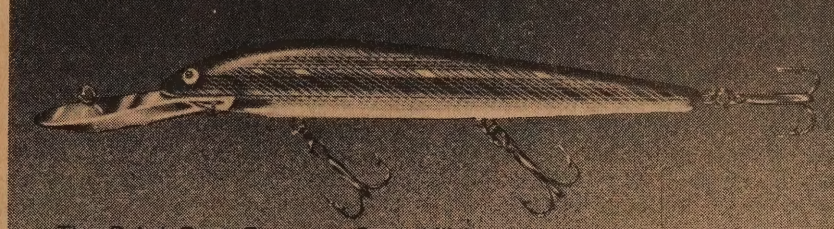

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Striper Striking Strategies

Part I by Dr. William A. Muller

Like many other hard working anglers, I spend a good deal of my fishing time making observations. Some of the observations deal with physical conditions such as temperature and wind, and are recorded in my log with the hope that the information will accumulate over the years and improve the quality of my catches.

Other observations are much less precise and scientific, but nonetheless the records of observed behavior patterns and the interpretation of the significance of the behavior can provide insight about the life style of a desired gamefish.

The following descriptions have impressed me over the years, and I think that they have had an impact on my techniques of fishing for striped bass. Some of my observations may be limited and my interpretations erroneous, but I continue to keep a record of these events because I believe that it is essential that an angler know the quarry. Study and evaluation are the first task for a consistently successful fisherman. This is especially true if the quarry is striped bass.

There is little doubt that striped bass are the glamour shallow water species in New England waters. It is a highly rated fish because the species boasts a huge potential size (125 lb. netted specimen), feeds elusively, fights hard, and can be terribly wise about hitting artificial baits.

Fishing for stripers is largely a seasonal affair, with the best catches being made at night. For many people night fishing is too inconvenient and uncomfortable, so they fish for linesides mostly at dusk and dawn.

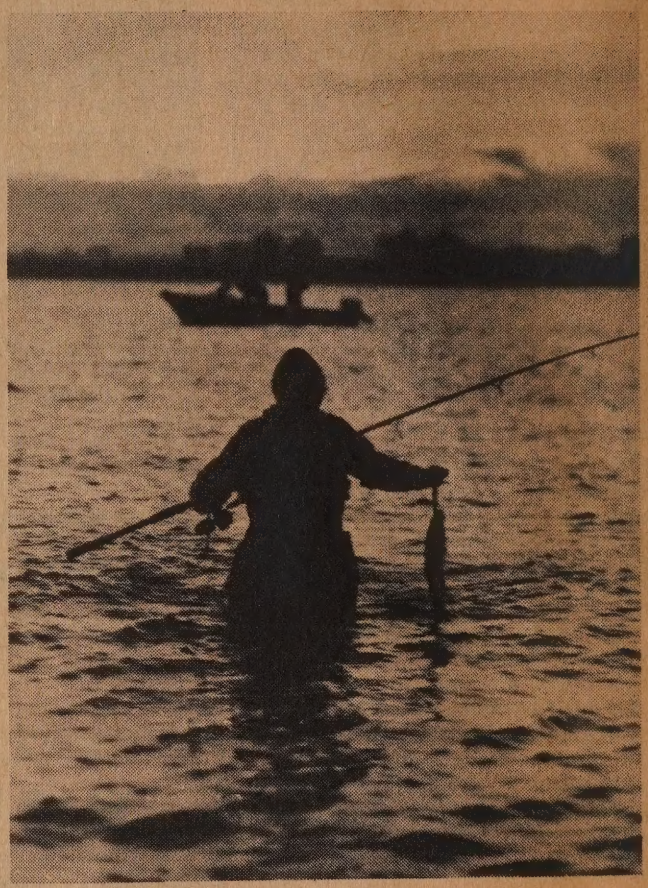
The angler usually works over tried and tested grounds where bass tend to become resident. Although the fisherman may know his area well, his productive evenings and mornings may be few and far between. Of course there are many factors which could explain the lack of fast fishing, including temperature changes, the absence of finfish baits, changes in the direction and velocity of the wind, low oxygen content, temporary migrations to deeper water, etc.

But the most overlooked factor in poor bass fishing is the striper, herself. The term "herself" does not reflect a male chauvinist point of view, but rather expresses respect for the fact that the larger specimens are females that have survived the males of the same year-classes.

Bass are "smart," they have to be in order to succeed in competition with other predators for a limited food supply. They lack the speed of a bluefish to chase down fast-swimming baitfish, and they do not possess the vicious set of teeth that a blue has, either. Then too, bass are somewhat short on stamina so that they sometimes have difficulty keeping up with the pursuit over extended distances. Yet, striped bass succeed. In spite of competition from other predators and man—they succeed!

Much has been written about the way in which bass strike a bait. Some experts are convinced that stripers anticipate the moving bait and adjust a course that will intercept the victim head on! Others, equally qualified, say that bass slap at prey with their tails in order to stun them before swallowing the dazed animal. Of course who could object to the idea that the bass run up behind the prey and swallow them.

Are you ready for a new theory on how bass strike? Well, forget it. I have none. I've seen bass take a bait by each of the approaches described above.

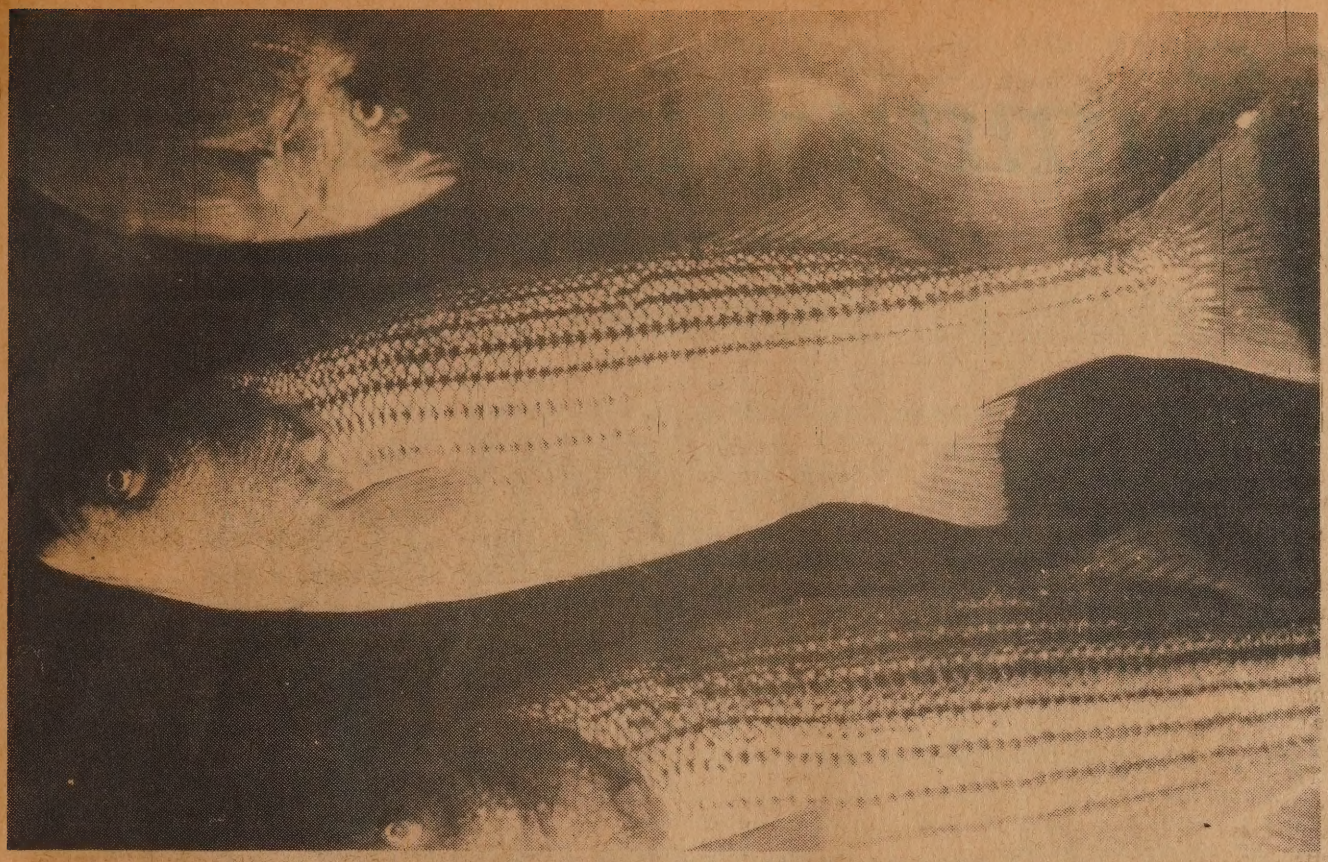


Characteristic of small bass, this fish hit a surface swimming plug from behind.

Bass are opportunists. The method of attack has to depend on conditions. If a striper is positioned behind a rock or a wood piling in a current, she is likely to strike from below, especially at night when the prey will be silhouetted against the sky. In clear water a feeding fish may swing wide of bait and then be in a position to intercept it head-on. When the bait is an artificial, the hit produces bone-jarring strikes that become fish stories with time.

Actively feeding schools will chase down bait, but these are usually smaller fish. Larger specimens tend to become lethargic and are particular about what they eat and under what circumstances they will eat it! Big bass can swallow big baits and they prefer to spend a minimum amount of time and energy to get them. The cows are patient but relentless. They will patrol an area that is rich in bait, or wait behind an underwater obstruction in solitude.

These larger fish seem to frequent a certain area for long periods of time. We watched a bass of about 30 pounds cavort off a jetty in Long Island Sound for a month before she



A porgy could share the same space with school bass, but could become a meal for a cow bass.

fell victim to an orange popper! She was like a clock. Each evening she would begin to frolic at sunset, chasing blackfish and bergals from underwater rockpiles. We threw everything we had at her for days during different stages of the tide—dusk, dawn, night, and day. We eventually gave up and would delight to sit on the jetty, puff on our pipe, and watch her drive the blackfish bananas.

One night a fella from Rhode Island pulled up to the jetty in a small skiff. He had seen the splashes and hurried over to try a few casts. He seemed well-equipped and knowledgeable, but we warned him the old bass had no interests in plugs, especially bright orange poppers! The angler threw the plug out anyway and on the third cast or maybe the fourth the bass ran the plug and inhaled it. We were in shock! Within minutes he swung the cow aboard with a quick thrust of the gaff. The show was over.

What made that bass hit that orange popper? It's hard to be absolutely positive, but I'll swear that the fish was angry and hit that oddball lure in an attempt to kill or chase away an invading nuisance.

Larger bass set up summer territories, which are really loosely identified and the main area of occupation is usually small—an underwater boulder, rock pile, small wreck, etc. When some foreign "thing," living or dead, passes through the zone the large striper will usually neglect it if the offering is not too conspicuous and not on the menu. But if the same pattern continues over and over—perhaps an angler throwing a lure again and again within a small area—the bass may strike in order to remove the nuisance.

The orange popper in the preceding example probably represented such a conspicuous nuisance. On the other hand, that bass did not hit our lures because they did not match the available menu, and their drab colors did not draw the attention of the bass away from the abundant blackfish and bergals.

One night a few years ago, several days after the October full moon, we were working a stretch of beach that produces well in the fall of the year. We had collected a few shorts and released them when the water, four-to-five casts off the beach, suddenly exploded. Big cow bass were doing a number on a school of large bunker. The action remained beyond casting range while the fish fed heavily for about an hour. We could see the irridescent foam and the empty craters as bass after bass assaulted the baitfish.

When the action died we figured that the cows had moved off into deeper water. However, the bass had not departed. We began to notice large swirls on the quiet water behind our plugs. From time to time we could feel a feeble knock, only to strike hard into nothing but air. Literally so, because the bass were playing with the lures. Careful observation in the moonlight revealed that the bass were rushing the artificials and flipping them into the air. When we reared back there was no fish, but often we'd feel another bump when the plug fell back into the water.

We talked it over, someone produced a file, and yet another fisherman told of a similar experience some years before. We sharpened the hooks to a needle point and decided to hold the rod tip to the side of our bodies and just above the surface of the water. It was suggested that we try to anticipate the strike and try to set the hook immediately. We finally collected a fifteen pounder and a twenty-two pound bass that evening. It was a hit-or-miss affair to be sure, but both fish were hooked on the side of the head, confirming our suspicions!

Next week I'll discuss "strikeless strikes," and present some thoughts on the problem of bass coloration changes.

Summertime Fluke

by Lansing Pruyn

It was almost 6 a.m. when I cut the motor on our small skiff 20 feet from a marshy island in Freeport Sloop Channel. A slight breeze from the northeast combined with the incoming tide to give us a good drift. My confidence was at a high level because we had caught fluke at this very spot under similar conditions a few days earlier.

As the boat slowly drifted in 12 feet of water, I lowered my rig over the side. The main line ended in a three-way swivel. A three-ounce sinker was attached to six inches of line from the bottom of the swivel. From the middle ring of the swivel hung a three-foot leader with a fluke hook. I was using a strip of squid and a spearing for bait.

My sinker had just hit bottom when a man in a nearby boat netted a small fluke. My anticipation soared.

However, ten minutes later the drift ended without a single fluke. I started the motor and went back for another drift. Once again the sinker bounced on the bottom. Then, suddenly, I felt slight pressure. Quickly dropping the rod tip I free-spooled line and, as it slowly uncoiled, counted to five. I reeled out the slack and lifted my dancing rod to a small fluke.

The fluke gave up a nice fight but was soon in the bottom of the bucket. The action continued until the tide slowed. We went home with 23 fish caught. Eight were returned to the water because they were under the 14-inch limit.

This kind of fishing can be had whenever you go out if you understand the nature of the fluke.

To begin with, fluke are an aggressive fish, unlike their winter cousins, the flounder. They will occasionally break water while in pursuit of baitfish. Usually, however, they will stay on the bottom, waiting in sand or eel grass for their prey.

Since fluke are aggressive, a moving bait is best. Drifting is usually the method used, but slow trolling is productive if tide or wind conditions make it impossible to drift.

Fluke prefer large bait. The best bait is a strip of squid with a killie or spearing. Taper the squid, making it narrow at the end. Hook the squid once. Then hook the killie or spearing through the lips.

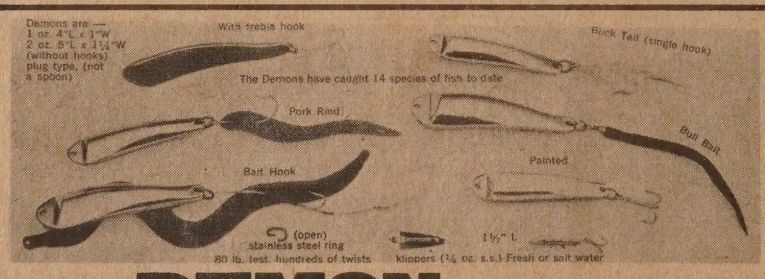
Don't be afraid tha bait is too big. I once caught a fluke with a whole 7-inch squid in its stomach. Another fluke I caught had two 5-inch porgies in its gut when I cleaned it.

Besides the combination baits mentioned above, other baits you can try are sand eels, smelts and mackerel. If you catch a sea robin, cut the belly strip out and use it the same way as squid.

Although fluke are aggressive, they will not quickly swallow your bait. This is especially true of the larger ones. Instead, fluke grab the bait in their mouths and hold on. You will feel a slight pressure interrupt the bouncing of the sinker. Do not set the hook now or you will pull the bait out of the fish's mouth. Instead, feed a few feet of line. This enables the fish to swallow the bait easily. Count to five, reel out the slack and set the hook! If you have hooked a fluke you will find out soon enough, but if you missed him, drop the bait down as the fish might grab it again.

It should be pointed out here that you will not always hook a fluke by this method. Sometimes you will do everything right and be rewarded with a sea robin. Often you will drive the hook into a 500 pound rock and will feel like a fool. But this is the best method for hooking fluke and will pay off in the long run.

When fluke first make their appearance in May, they stick to shallow water near the inlets. As summer approaches, they slowly fan out into creeks and bays. During the summer,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fish the back waters in relatively deep water.

Many of the fluke caught this year will be under the 14-inch limit. If you catch a short fluke, return it to the water. These undersized fluke will provide good fishing in the future.

Fluke provide excellent eating. Their flesh is firm and fillets very easily. Any recipe is good for fluke, as it is very difficult to make them taste bad.

I prefer the fillets rolled in egg and bread crumbs and fried until golden brown. Or, if you want to be fancy, take the fillets and place them in aluminum foil in a baking pan. Roll edges of foil up. Make cuts in the flesh, but do not break the skin. Then add salt, pepper oregano and other spices that strike your fancy. Let the fillets sit for 45 minutes to let the spices do their thing. Pour ¼ cup of corn oil over the fillets as evenly as possible. Cook for 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

I guarantee that after trying this recipe, you will be counting the days to your next fluke trip!!

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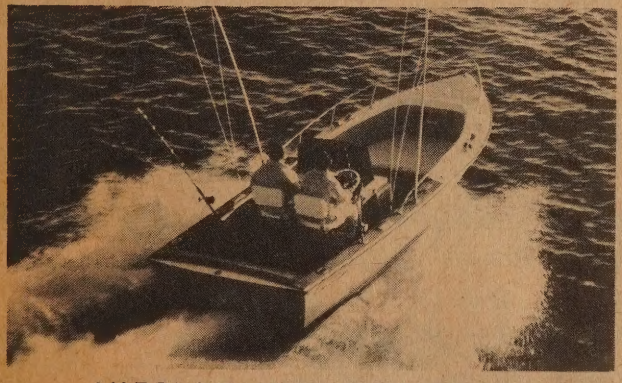

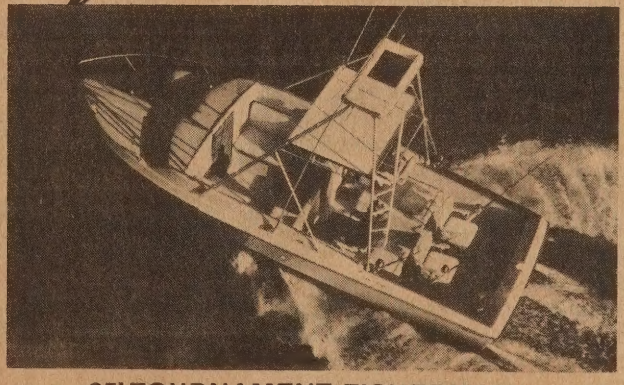

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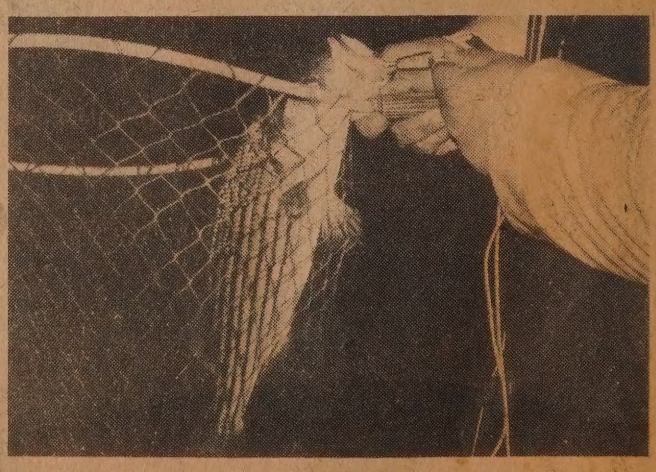
THE SPLASH THAT ANGERS

by Capt. Zachary Grossman

If you don't see this, you're not working your popper the right way.

Pigtail Pickup Loop about to flip flyrod popper into the ai



Author unhooks a bass that couldn't stand it any longer.

The vast majority of pluggers these days avoid those lures that require angler-imparted action. They use the lures that swim, wiggle, dip, and dive all by themselves. The one exception to this trend is the popper. This lure has gained universal acceptance because of its effectiveness, its excitement, and its apparent ease of use. Toss a popper into a feeding school of gamefish and jerk it a few times and you'll probably have a fish on. Most anglers don't recognize the potential of this lure, and use it only when they see surface activity.

The popper has the reputation of being one of the very few lures that will draw a strike from a fish that is not hungry. As with all other lures that depend on the angler for their action, there is an art to using a popper. When this lure is used creatively, with the angler concentrating on every subtle movement and keeping in mind the ultimate goal of annoying his quarry enough to goad him into attacking, the popper is capable of catching fish where others cannot.

The angler who has enjoyed catching fish on the popper will try it sooner or later, when there is no surface activity, in the hope that he can once again experience the thrill of a surface strike. I have observed many fishermen doing this and have been struck by the obvious manifestations of the "built-in action syndrome". By this I mean that they have become so used to the self-wiggling lures that they apply the steady, boring, repetitious techniques to the use of the popper, as well. They just pop and reel and pop and reel.

This retrieve is just not exciting enough to make a fish that is not actively feeding leave his lair and race to the surface. I have seen anglers in an apparent trance as they retrieve the lure, their minds elsewhere. If a strike should come they are totally unprepared for it and usually miss the fish.

If you expect a fish, that might be lying on the bottom digesting a meal, to exert the energy necessary to come to the surface after your popper you must give him ample reason. If he is not hungry you cannot appeal to his appetite. A popper entering the lair of a gamefish is looked upon as a distant intruder. Unless you can drive the fish to uncontrollable anger,

he will just ignore the lure until it goes away.

A popper tossed where there is no surface activity is not mistaken for a natural thing. When is the last time you saw a fish throw a shower of spray ahead of itself as it swims? When is the last time you saw a fish stand on its tail and beat its head into the water, first on the right then on the left (a pencil-popper can be made to do this)? It's obvious, then, that a gamefish coming out of still water to wallop a lure acting this way is doing so to silence the intruder rather than eat him.

The angler must impart some of himself into the popper for it to work. He must concentrate on every move of the lure, and take delight in its gyrations as he retains the mental picture of a nice, fat striper lying on the bottom trying to relax. He must strive to annoy this fish and he must enjoy every minute of it. I have often found myself grinning broadly as I worked a popper over what I knew to be the hideout of a good fish. It became a contest of nerves.

I knew he was down there, getting madder and madder, swimming in circles, tense, ever looking upward at that annoying thing that keeps coming back to taunt him. When I finally break him and he skyrockets through the still surface, attempting to destroy my lure, I find myself shouting out loud at the fish, "I got you." As you can see, this little game really gets the angler involved with his quarry and heightens the satisfaction of fooling him. A fish lured in this manner always seems to fight harder, perhaps because he is already in a state of frenzy before even feeling the hook.

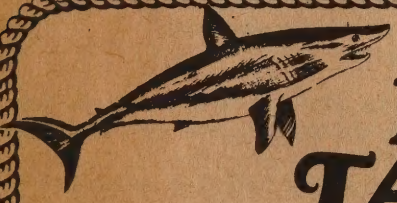
To make a popper work the angler must impart a force which pulls the lure against the water, allowing the cup-shaped or angle-cut face to throw a shower of spray ahead of the lure. This is accomplished by jerking the rod against a tight line attached to the lure. The next step is to recover the slack thus created in time to have a taut line for the next jerk or pop. The whole thing is a matter of timing. Once this simple manipulation is mastered you can work a popper just the way most other anglers do: reel and pop, reel and pop, reel and pop.

While this works well among a mass of surface feeding gamefish it will not work so well over non-feeding fish. Try to add some zing to the action; make it unpredictable, exciting, wild. A series of quick, short pops can be gotten out of a lure without having to reel up the slack if the rod is moved in an arc away from the lure as you work it, thus keeping a tight line. When the rod is brought back to the starting position (pointing at the lure) you must reel up the extra slack quickly. When this technique is mastered you can mix up the sequence any way you like. For example, pop-reel-pop-pop-pop-reel-pop-reel-pop-pop-pop-splash! (the splash was, of course, a fish).

The pencil popper is a different kind of lure in that its action is not derived by forcing its head against the water to throw spray. This lure, and others like it, are ultimate antagonists of resting fish because they can create a commotion unparalleled by any other lure. This lure requires perfect timing which only comes with practice. The angler must impart short, choppy jerks to the head of this lure so that it will swing its head back and forth, slapping the water each time, thus action must be imparted to the rod to make the lure do this (rod action towards and away from the lure).

I find the easiest way to do this is to plant the rod butt firmly against the stomach, if it's a one-handed rod, or place the butt between the legs if it is long enough, then gripping the rod above the reel seat and shaking it back and forth

(Continued on page 15.)



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Basic Surf Fishing Tackle

by Vlad Evanoff

When casting from rocky points such as this one in Rhode Island, you can use lighter and shorter surf rods than when casting from sandy beaches where long casts are required to reach deep water or feeding fish.

It is important that a beginner first starting out in surf fishing buys the right rod, reel and line for the fishing he plans to do. Surf fishing is a rough, tough game even if you have the proper tackle, but it can be even worse, certainly discouraging, if you start off with the wrong outfit.

If you know an experienced surf fisherman, or a tackle dealer who either surf fishes himself or knows surf tackle, you can usually depend on his advice to get properly equipped, especially in the area fished or where surf tackle is sold.

You have to take several things into consideration when choosing a surf rod: the area you will fish, the weight of the lures or sinkers you will cast, how far you have to cast, the size of the fish you will catch and the tides, currents and waves you will normally encounter.

If you plan to fish mostly from jetties and breakwaters, for example, you can use a somewhat lighter and shorter surf rod. The same is true if you plan to fish a general area like Rhode Island where you can get out on a rock or boulder and make relatively short casts into deep water nearby.

But if most of your fishing will be done from sandy beaches where long casts are required then a heavier, longer rod will do a better job. And you'll also need a heavier, longer rod if you plan to do mostly bottom or bait fishing with heavy sinkers.

So you see it really boils down to the question of where you will be fishing MOST of the time. If you plan to fish only one area, select one rod which will suit this fishing best. But if you plan to fish many different spots, under varying conditions, you'll really need two or three surf outfits.

Today most of the surf outfits you'll see on the beach are spinning rods and reels. They are easier to use. To simplify matters, we can divide surf spinning outfits into three classes: light, medium and heavy.

Light outfits will range from 8 to 9 feet in length, will be fairly limber and can be used with light lines and the lighter lures and sinkers. They can be used from jetties and breakwaters, or even beaches when you have to cast light lures and are seeking such fish as school stripers, small blues, weakfish and kingfish. Such a rod can also be used from a rocky point or cliff in spots like Rhode Island where you can make short casts into deep water nearby.

The medium weight rod will range from about 8½ to 10 feet in length and will come with various actions from limber to stiff. It will handle lures and sinkers up to about three ounces in weight and is the nearest thing to an "all-around" surf rod. It can be used from sand beaches, rocky shores and jetties in most fishing areas and will handle all but the very heaviest lures and sinkers. But it can still be used for bottom or bait fishing with the lighter sinkers. If you can afford only one surf rod, this is the one to get.

The heavy surf spinning outfit is the "work-horse" of the group and is used to make long casts with heavy lures and sinkers, fish in rough surf and strong currents and fight big fish. Such a rod will range from 10 to 14 feet in length and will cast lures and sinkers up to four or five ounces. If you plan to fish for the biggest stripers, jumbo blues and channel bass this is the best rod: You'll see it along Cape Cod, parts of Rhode Island, at Montauk and in Virginia and North Carolina. It is also used in Florida for pompano in the surf.

Surf anglers also use light one-handed spinning rods, bait-

Fly rods can be used for surf fishing if the fish are not too large, not too far out, and the current and surf isn't too heavy. But you are handicapped when fishing under most surf conditions.

casting rods and even fly rods at times for surf fishing. Such light tackle is best when the surf is calm or small fish are running, and in areas where you can fight the fish freely. But usually the fishing is best when the surf is rough or where long casts are required and, under those conditions, such light outfits become a handicap.

Surf spinning reels should match the three outfits described above. The smaller sizes are best with light and medium surf rods and the bigger reels are used with the longer, heavier rods. Reels vary in line capacity, but even the smallest reels used with light surf rods should hold at least 250 yards of line. For medium surf rods, get reels holding from 250 to 300 yards of line. The heavier surf rods will require the biggest surf spinning mills holding from 300 to 400 yards of line. Of course, how much line you get on your reel will depend on the spool size and line diameter.

When buying a spinning reel for surf fishing get one which is designed for salt water fishing, or even specifically for surf fishing. Then it will have strong, heavy parts and gears and be made of non-corrosive materials to take the wear and tear of casting, working lures and fighting fish.

Several good surf spinning reels, both domestic and imported, are on the market. Buy a reel made by a reputable manufacturer or importer. If an expert surf angler recommends or uses a certain model you can be quite certain that it will perform well and stand up in surf fishing. And be sure that it is a popular model so that parts are readily available should the reel require emergency repairs.

It's always a good idea to have spare reels on hand when you go fishing. Surf fishing is tough on all tackle, and it pays to carry a spare reel or two with you in the car in case the one you are using gets out of order.

When it comes to choosing lines for surf fishing, monofilament line is the first choice with most expert surf anglers. Some anglers still use braided nylon or dacron lines with conventional surf reels. But for spinning reels the mono lines are best. There many good domestic and imported mono lines on the market, and if you buy a dependable, popular brand you can be pretty sure it will perform well. Some lines can be bought at bargain prices, but you get what you pay for, and if you want a limp, good quality, smooth-casting thin line you have to pay more for it.

The strength of the line you use depends on your rod and reel and the fishing you plan to do. For most light surf spinning outfits, lines testing from 10 to 15 pounds are most often used. For medium weight outfits you can spool lines testing from 15 to 20 pounds. And for heavy spinning rods, 20 or 25 pound test lines ae best. Today, because of their thinner diameters, you can use a line a few pounds stronger and still get plenty of line on your reel. In spinning, the thinner the line, the more distance you'll get when casting.

THE SPLASH THAT ANGERS

(Continued from page 13.)

about twice a second. This sets up a whipping motion in the rod tip which will travel down to the lure. The line must be retrieved very slowly as the lure will shake left and right but move toward the angler very slowly. This is what makes this lure so deadly.

You can fish it over a hideout much longer than you can with a regular popper because it seems to just stay there and splash around. The commotion created by this lure is amazing and is only exceeded by the violent fury with which fish tend to hit it. As you may suspect, this lure is very tiring to use. I reserve it for special occasions, such as a fish that continually chases my regular popper but refuses to strike.

The flyrod popper is worked much the same as the regular popper, except that the line being stripped in imparts most of the force to the lure, rather than the rod. The flyrod offers certain advantages that other kinds of tackle do not. For instance, you can keep the lure in the payoff zone more effectively because you don't have to retrieve the lure all the way back to the rod. Once the popper has moved out of the area you are concentrating on, it is simple to make a backcast and shoot the lure right out there again. In this manner the lure can be annoying the fish more within a given period of time by not giving the fish a chance to cool off.

A properly constructed flyrod popper throws a shower of spray equal to a spinning-size popper, and will not suffer because of its small size. Remember, it's the noise that has made the fish commit himself, and once he is on his way to the surface he will usually follow through with his attack. The flyrod popper is often shunned by flycasters because it is so hard to pick up on the backcast. There is a method which overcomes this water drag.

The "Pigtail Pickup" is executed by drawing a circle in the air (one foot diameter) with the rod tip then going right into the backcast. This flick of the wrist (counter clockwise if you are right-handed) causes a loop to travel down the flyline just ahead of the power of the backcast. When this loop hits the popper it causes it to actually jump an inch or two out of the water, and before it can fall back in, the thrust of the backcast is upon it, lifting it high into the air behind the angler. Originally this trick was used without the backcast by fresh water flyrodders to make their bass bugs jump from lily pad to lily pad. When applied with the backcast, it is as easy to use a popper as any other fly.

I hope this article has given you some insight into the use of the popper for catching fish that are not feeding. Go out and experiment on your own; you will be pleasantly surprised at the fish you will catch where others could not. If, after a while, you find yourself talking to the fish you fool or even to the popper as you work it, don't worry. I do it all the time and I'm not crazy, am I?

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LINE

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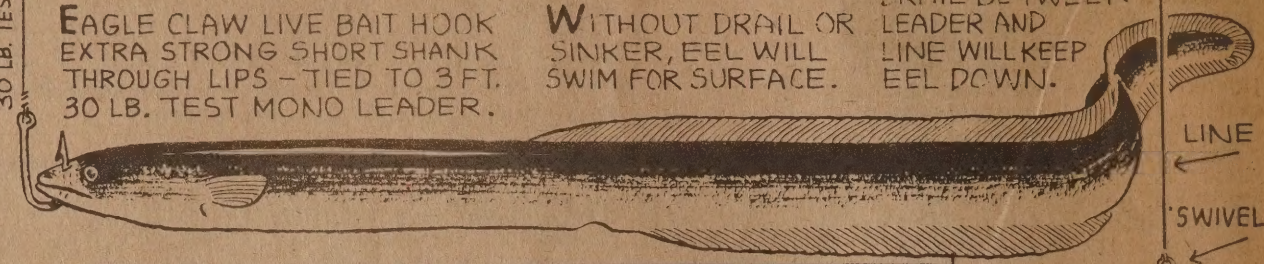

WHOLE BUTTERFISH RIGGED FOR SHARKS

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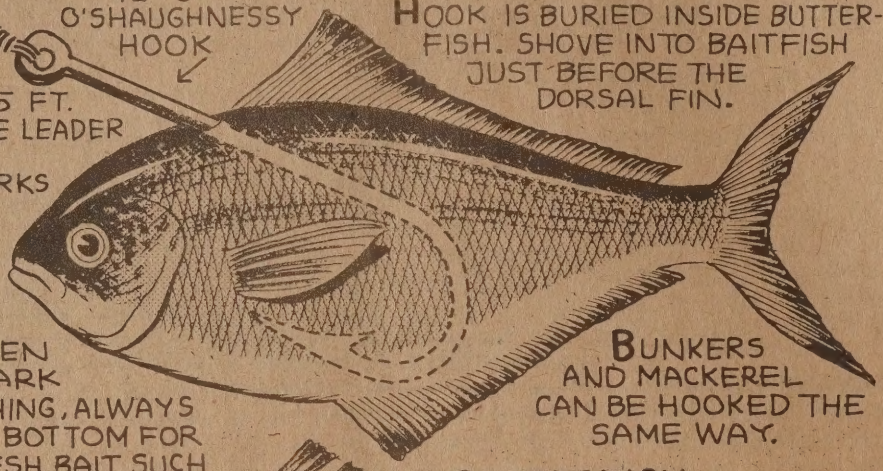

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BY FRED GUARDINEER

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. John Sweetman of the **Ebb Tide** continues to have great catches of fluke. This past Sunday the charter came in with over 80 fluke.

Hank Colombi at the Star Island Yacht Club reports the private boats are having good bass fishing in the morning and bluefishing is taking over later in the day. Better bass fishing was experienced at night. Most of the action occurred at the Elbow or under the Light. The shark activity seems to be taking place in 240 feet of water, with plenty of blue sharks and more than a few makos.

John Keller at **Lake Montauk Marina** said the fluking is excellent at the North Rip and the Midway Buoy. Porgies are beginning to show and both the rental boats and the dock customers are catching them. These fish go from one to three pounds. Bluefishing is running hot and cold. Shagwong Reef held some blues that went from five to eight pounds. John said the night bass fishing is excellent and just fair for the boats during the day.

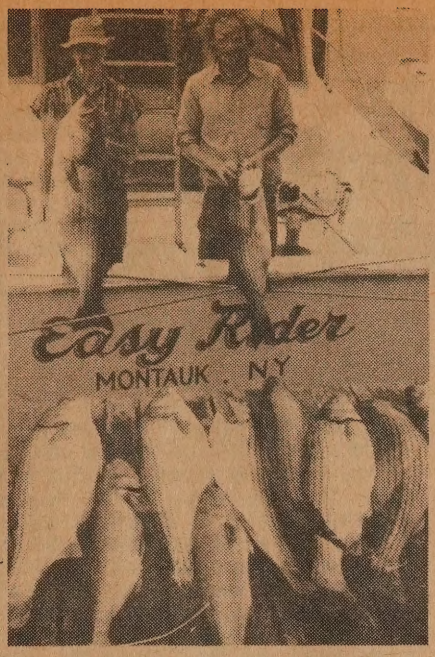
The charter boat **Jean Three** is having very good catches of bass and blues.

Johnny Kronuch reports mixed size bass from four to 22 lbs. came in from the surf. Some good sized weakfish were caught among these bass. Both of these fish are hitting plugs at night. Shagwong, from the Point to the bar, and Ditch Plains was where this weekend action occurred.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper** is having great catches of cod in the high teens to 35 and 40 lbs. Some bluefish are also caught on the cod rigs and have weighed up to 22 lbs.

Scott Simons, LIF staff member, described the fluke fishing at Montauk as "fantastic." On Saturday he fished the rips at the Midway Buoy and boated sixty-one fluke 1½ to 4 lbs. by himself. Long strips of fluke and large sand eels are the best baits. Scott said that while the fish are numerous, they are still small, however, the larger fluke should be moving in shortly. Loads of small fluke are also being taken at Shagwong Reef, right on the beach with sand eels.

Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charter boat **Montauk** had Hal Weissman and party aboard and they caught 36 blues on Saturday at the Cartwright Grounds. These blues weighed 15-18 lbs. On Sunday, George Hahn III of Bohemia and his party caught five blue sharks from 100-190 lbs. Peter J. Timpe of Brentwood had a 150 lb. Mako. These sharks were taken 20 miles southeast of the Point.



Herb Broom and Michael Boon, both of Montauk, took 18 bass, 20-46 lbs., aboard the Easy Rider at Montauk. They trolled Capt. John Sekora's Big Tubes under the Lighthouse and lost as many as they caught because of heavy seas.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at **Promised Land Fishing Station** said the fishing has been great all week but showed a dramatic slowdown on Sunday. Weakfish and porgies are in solid from Fort Pond Bay to Goff Point. The porgies run from one to three pounds while the weakfish are from two to seven pounds with the average running about four pounds. Bluefish from one to 12 lbs. are mixed in with the weaks and are above them.

SHINNECOCK

Great fishing is taking place, said Mickey Altenkirch of **Altenkirch Tackle**. Bluefish up to 12 lbs. and as many as 30 or 40 a boat were trolled east of the inlet. Fluke fishing in the bay has improved greatly over last week. On Saturday, a surfman came in with four bass, three of which were about 15-18 lbs. each. The whopper the angler took weighed in at 41 lbs. 9 ozs.

HAMPTON BAYS

Ernie at **Bradley's Fishing Station** said that there is good fluking at the sand bars near the inlet and the East Channel. Fish run 2-2½ lbs. and there are plenty of shorts. The average catch per boat is 15-16 fluke. Snapper blues are near the inlet and all over the bay. Just look for the birds working and cast anything from your tackle box at them. Ernie went out Saturday with Capt. Bob Oldeack and Roger Hubbard on their boat IV Pack II shark fishing. On their way out they came across "acres and acres" of bluefish working on the surface. They quickly plugged 16 fish, 9 to 12 lbs., before continuing southeast of the inlet to 100 feet of water. They landed one dusky shark of 45 lbs. on light spinning tackle and dropped another estimated to be over 100 lbs. after an hours battle.

Tony's Fishing Station reports "everyone's real happy, there's lots of fluke." The best area is between buoys 21 and 24, with squid and sand eel or killie combos the best baits. A Mr. Boyer brought in two doormats of 8 and 10 lbs. Snapper blues are showing around the east side of the Ponquogue Bridge occasionally and they are being plugged on small Rebels.

MORICHES BAY

"Excellent flounder fishing," reports out of the **Hi-Way Fishing Station** say. Chumming with mussels by Buoy 30 is producing up to 200 flounder ranging from throwbacks to filleting size. Fluke are making a showing at Buoys 42 and 43. The fish are good size, but no really big ones. The best bait seems to be the squid and sand eel combo. Offshore action is very good for sharks. Duskys of 425 and 500 pounds were weighed in over the weekend. Several blue sharks and one

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mako of 175 lbs. were also taken. The first tuna of the season was weighed in this week also. The 25 lb. tuna was taken in 85 feet of water. Blues are being trolled right outside the inlet.

Mrs. Seifert of the **Silly Lily Fishing Station** said that fluke fishing was good in the Old Channel from buoy 36 to the Elbow. Boat traffic was very heavy and effected the fishing. Largest catch of the weekend was 18 fish, which included many fish of 3 and 4 lbs. Flounder fishing is very good for this time of year, with up to 40 fish of ¼-1 lb. per boat. The best area is west of Buoy 33 and between Buoys 38 and 39. One angler saw birds working by the Coast Guard Station and cast a Rebel. He was rewarded with 3 bass to 7½ lbs. for his efforts.

Chet at **B & B Tackle** reported that Capt. Tom Cashman of the Rogue, while bluefishing in 95 feet of water, spotted, baited and boated a 295 lb. Mako shark. During the course of the fight the line went under the boat. Capt. Cashman loosened the drag, and while the shark was about 300 yards away, he went under the boat and freed the line so that he could boat this monster. Chet also said several other boats came in with mako and dusky sharks which were caught in about 100 feet of water or better.

MASTIC BEACH

Ron at **Keenan's Fishing Station** said "the bay is loaded with small blues and they're raising hell." The fish are small, in the 1-2 lb. range, and even the fluke fishermen are picking up quite a few on the bottom. The fish are on the bottom, in the middle and on top and they are scaring everything around. A few blues of 7 lbs. were weighed in. Fluke fishing is holding steady with 15-20 fish per boat, all in the 2-4 lb. range. There aren't as many shorts as last year, Ron said.

WEST SAYVILLE

Dennis at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports the weakfish have made a comeback. These are the smaller one to four pound fish and they are nearing in quantity the catches of earlier in the season. Browns River Jetty, about half-way into the bay, or near the clam dredges are the best areas. Fluke are plentiful. The channel from Buoys 28 to 30 is best for drifting, and Buoys 4 and 5, by Heckscher, is best for those who anchor.

CAPTREE

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** said the beginning of the week was slow, with the fishing getting better every day as the week went on. The catches have been from a normal of 2-6 fish per man to a top of 10-15 fish. A lot of fish were lost due to being lip hooked. Fish are averaging six to 12 lbs. Capt. Tweedy has taken blues near the Nassau County new sewer outfall.

Noel Kappauf at the **Captree Bait Station** said fluke fishing is good at all the Fire Island piers. Striped bass are being taken on live eels at Democrat Point, Sore Thumb and Cedar Beach. This fishing is taking place late at night and early in the morning.

BABYLON

Augie Principe of **Augie's Bait & Tackle** reported the Babylon Tuna Club ran their tuna contest over the Independence Day weekend. Between 20 and 25 boats participated and about 70 tuna were caught. The catches went from skunked to 17 fish. These tuna are in a long line of fish in about 140 feet of water at 155 degrees out of the inlet. Virginia McCord was the winner with a 41 lb. 4 oz. tuna caught from the boat Pompano. Augie said there is very good fluke fishing in the Fire Island Inlet. Blue claw crabs are being caught from the dock.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle said that crabs are all over the bay and are being taken at night. Bluefish are being trolled by the Lighthouse and striped bass are mixed in with them. The blues are three or four pounds while the bass are schoolies to ten pounds. Live eels are also taking bass in the same area and the Fire Island Inlet. Excellent fluke activity is also taking place in the inlet channel.

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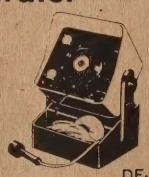

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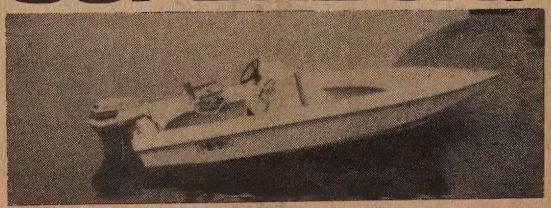

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AMITYVILLE

Jonas Bait & Tackle reports Bill Ray of Copiague caught 50 weakfish on Tuesday between 6 and 8 A.M. These 1 to 2½ lb. weakfish took a small Hopkins at Howells Point. Kingfish from 1½ to 2 lbs. were taken at Copiague Beach. Fluke fishing is very good in the bay from Amityville to Copiague in the State Channel. Catches have been from 15 to 70 a boat. Some fishermen are buying fiddlers and are having good success at Democrat Point. Lou Clemente, Al Decaro and Paul Schneider of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club caught and released 14 sharks which were caught in 120 feet of water, 140 degrees out of the inlet.

SEAFORD

Mike's Rowboat Station reports weakfish of six to eight pounds being caught by the Wantagh Bridges. Drifting with a piece of squid accounted for these catches. Fluke of two and three pounds are taking killies in the same area drifting.

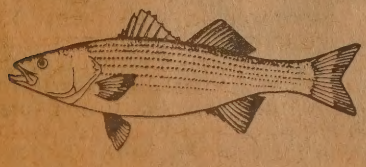
Lon Wanser, Jr. of **Wanser's Tackle Shop** said the fluke fishing has picked up and these fish are taking squid and spearing drifted in the Sloop Channel. Clam chummers are taking school sized bass by the Wantagh bridges. Bill Kology of Massapequa took a 52 lb. bass on a live bunker from one of these bridges. The bass action has been consistently good. Small weaks of three to four pounds are taking squid. Four to five fish per boat is the average. Goose Creek and its drain, along with the second and third bridges, is where these weaks came from.

WANTAGH

School sized bass are being taken by the clam chummers in the State Channel, said Frank at **Causeway Bait & Tackle**. Fluke fishing is good either drifting or anchoring and chumming with bunker. Crabbing is getting better every day. Some spotty weakfishing is taking place around the bridges. Flounder fishing is just about done.

MERRICK

Ron at **Whaleneck Marina** reports great fluking with killies, spearing or squid. Jones Inlet and Fundy Bay are best. On the outside, there is a scattered showing of weakfish. Ron says that you can get all the big bluefish you want about 20 miles out where you can see the blue water of the Gulf Stream.



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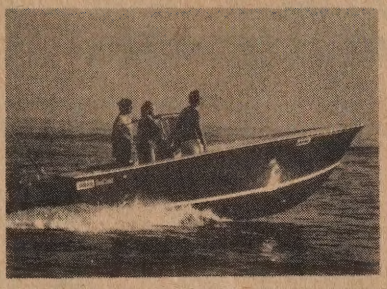

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

SOUTHOLD

Lori Lieblein at the **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** said porgy fishing was best at the South Ferry. On Sunday, the weakfishing seemed to pick up at the Brickyard. Snapper blues were caught at Beixedon. Bass and blues are in the Plum Gut.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports the area is loaded with porgies. Some weakfish are being caught along with the porgies and they go from three to five pounds. Fluke are being taken on squid drifted along the beach. About half of them are keepers. Blackfish can be had but they prefer green crabs.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fischer of the **Betty W** reports pretty good fishing in the beginning of the week with the action slacking off on the Independence weekend. Porgies and blackfish are the mainstay.

Bruce Cash of the **Port Jeff Ace** said they are catching porgies and blacks, with an occasional fluke mixed in. They had one fluke going over five pounds. The bluefish are chasing the porgies around. They had one in the net eating a hooked porgy, but the blue jumped out. Some blues were spotted off Cranes Neck.

George at **Plaza Sports** said the porgies are all over on the outside. Small striped bass are taking floating worms or eels and Tri-Fin lures. Using these in Porpoise Channel and the Mt. Sinai and Port Jefferson channels about two hours into the outgoing tide is best. Big striped bass are scattered and are taking live eels. Snappers to one pound are in the harbor.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Tim Fleming at **Smithtown Sports Shop** reports getting bluefish of four and five pounds drifting bunker off Cranes Neck. Even with all the boat traffic they also caught some smaller blues on top with a chrome Creek Chub popper. If you can be patient, anchor at the first buoy at the Nissequogue River and drift out some worms. You can catch bass that run seven or eight pounds.

NORTHPORT

Ted Bowman's Sporting Goods reported a good weekend on bass and blues. On Friday morning, Peter Lahm weighed in a 28¾ lb. bass which took a bunker at Target Rock. On Saturday, Peter's father, Ed, took a 32 pounder at the same place. Bluefish in the six to ten pound class are moving from Diamond Point to Eatons Neck.

HUNTINGTON

Unbelievable bass and bluefishing is taking place, said George Valentine at **Four Winds Tackle**. It is like a little Sandy Hook out there! The bass are

Joe Hoggard, Joe Jasper and Daniel Funn, all of Brooklyn, caught 42 weakfish up to 3 lbs. and 82 porgies all on worms in the Roses Grove area. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

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Frank Kavanagh of Huntington took this 47 lb. 3 oz. bass on a live bunker off Coopers Bluff. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Tackle.

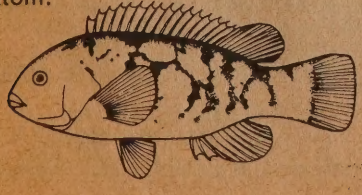
taking just about any kind of bait that is put in the water. Live and dead bunker, eels and clam chum are all scoring with plenty of fish, and big ones at that! Mike Morchiaroli took a 51 lb. bass off Marshall Field on a live bunker. Bluefish are taking everything that the bass want and are considered pests by some anglers. How about that?

Capt. Don Constantin of the **Ever Ready Fleet** said the fishing has been good both day and night. One unusual aspect was that they have picked up porgies and flounder at night. Bunker and blues are found throughout Huntington Bay. On July 22, bluefishing is scheduled for daytime and bass fishing is scheduled for night fishing.

Regal Marine reports great bass fishing north of Target Rock off the Mansion. Blues were caught off the beach north of the Coast Guard inlet.

GLEN COVE

John at **Glen Cove Sports Shop** said the blues are everywhere. They are being taken on just about any method you can name. Trolling, jigging and bait fishing are all successful. Mr. & Mrs. Ackels and Stan (the lure maker) Grabowski fished from the Glen Cove breakwater on Saturday afternoon and came up with seven blues of about 8 or 9 lbs. They took bunker chunks on the bottom.



CITY ISLAND

John's Gun & Tackle in the Bronx said the blues are in the Sound from Eatons Neck to the Throggs Neck Bridge. Trolling deep gets big ones to nine pounds, while the fish on the top run from three to four pounds. Bass night fishing with mackerel and bunker chunks will bring in big ones if patient. Porgies and blacks are still good all over.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The **Aloma II** has moved into heavier schools of blues, stronger fighters than previously. Average catches of these choppers are 3-20 per man. Capt. "Spider" Schmidt is fishing south of Cholera and the Three Sisters. For super-action, try the Wed., Fri. and Sat. night trips.

Capt. Al is into heavy blues, on his day and night trips. These are big sluggers, says Al, with anglers weary but happy.

The **Star Stream II** reports very good bluefishing around the clock. The fish run 6-12 lbs. average.

The **Dock One** reports the blues are scattered, but good even so. Football tuna are very good and anglers are getting blind hits while trolling. A 35 pound fish was taken in the afternoon on the surface. This was approximately 35 miles due west of Manasquan.

The **Sea Hunter** has been enjoying very good fluking in Jones Inlet, with 15-20 fish per man the average. Bluefishing on the weekend was very good. On Saturday, there were 200 blues for 15 fares. These fish were in the 10-12 lb. class. Drifting with mackerel did the job. On Sunday, 12 fares got 107 fish in the 6-8 lb. class.

The **Night Owl** had 800 lbs. of bluefish for a six man charter on Sunday.

Roy Flood at **Mako Marine** had a lot of names, etc., but space requires editing down to the fact that blues, fluke and sharks are here in abundance. Call Roy for any details you might require.

Nick of the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** called to say the **Acme** did very well on fluke on Saturday. The **Blue Fin** and the **Norseman** did very well on fluke on Sunday. All the other charter boats and the open boat **Capt. Hall** did well with blues on Saturday and Sunday. School tuna are being trolled by private boats offshore.

The **Capt. Lou II** is doing the devil's work on fluke and flounder, as usual.

POINT LOOKOUT

The **Junion II** hooked two makos on Thursday, landing one. Friday saw

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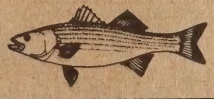

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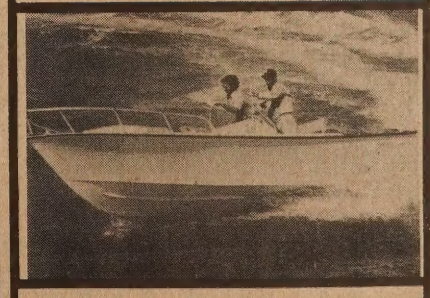

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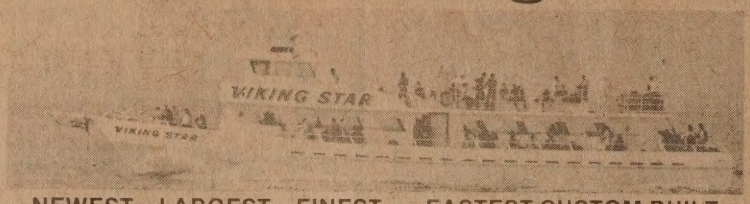

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Sails From Right Side of Dock
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On $14,000	1970	Inbd	$200 Ded $246
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On $20,000	1974	Inbd	$200 Ded $258
On $24,000	1973	Inbd	$500 Ded $294
On $30,000	1974	Inbd	$500 Ded $355
On $40,000	1972	Inbd	$500 Ded $403
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First Traffic Light at Jack's Bait & Tackle

loads of fluke come over the side. On Saturday, at the Farms, 19 blues were trolled. On Sunday, 12 sharks were hooked, 8 taken to the boat and cut off. Sharks taken included a 150 lb. dusky and a blue shark of 100 lbs. Five football tuna were also taken. The action took place in the H.A. Buoy area.

The **Angler II** is doing a job on the choppers at Three Sisters and south of Cholera. Saturday was the day for jigging blues using heavy Diamond jigs.

Ed's Fishing Station called to report that 30 fluke were taken by Sue Pulise, Patty Barco, Ruth Smiley and Isabella DiCarlo from one of Ed's rental skiffs right in front of the station on spearing and killies. Outgoing tide was the best. Catches have been fair to very good. There are lots of flounders at Swift Creek and the Coast Guard Station area. Bluefishing has been great offshore.

Capts. George and Jay Porter of the **Brand X**, sailing mornings and evenings from Point Lookout, report excellent bluefishing. The choppers are in the 6-12 lb. class.

ISLAND PARK

The **Gennie Mae** is bottom fishing for fluke and sea bass off Riis Park and doing very well. The fluke run from 2-7 lbs.

Beckman's Tackle Shop in Lynbrook reports lots of fluke in Reynolds Channel and off Riis Park. Striped bass are being taken on bunker and eels off the rock piles. Bill advises fishing weekdays in order to avoid the heavy boat traffic.

LONG BEACH

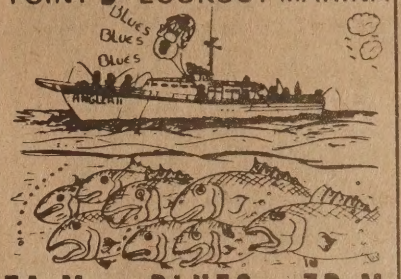
Long Beach Sports Marina reports lots of fluke at Buoys 3, 7 and 5. There are a good number of keepers, however, there are lots of small fish too. PLEASE return those under 14 inches. You face a stiff fine if caught with short fish.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ron Lepper of the **Kim** reports very good bassing off the Rockaways on bunker. The average catch is 12-15 fish per boat and the fish run to 20 lbs. Sunday was excellent at the Rockaways on bunker. Some fish were trolled on spoons Thursday and Friday by Buddy Rogal on the J & D. Sharks are in abundance (R.L. is now sharking) in the H.A. Buoy area. There are lots of makos around, as well as duskys, grays and blues. There are loads of bluefish at Cholera. Ron says he sailed through acres of Tuna on Sunday. These fish were in the 8-12 lb. class.

Leon Miller of **Henning's Fishing Station** reported the fishing has never been better. Bass are being chummed at the bridges and also on bunker at the Rockaways. Bluefish are at Cholera. Loads of fluke can be found in Reynolds Channel and they run to

Point Lookout Island Park

Angler II
POINT LOOKOUT MARINA


7A.M. BLUES 7P.M.
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FAST 85' OPEN BOAT
FREE PARKING FREE ICE

ISLAND PARK
Ginnie-Mae OPEN BOAT
FLUKE & BOTTOM FISHING—Daily 7am
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FLUKE 7 A.M. DAILY EXC. MON.
FAST, COMFORTABLE 65' OPEN BOAT
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34' SPORTFISHERMAN—6 PASS. LIMIT
INSHORE & OFFSHORE CHARTERS—All Elect.
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Specializing in Shark Fishing
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TUNA—BLUES—SHARKS
TROLLING and/or CHUMMING
6 Passenger Limit
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Brand X
FAST – COMFORTABLE
85 FT. OPEN BOAT
BIG BLUES 7 A.M. & 7 P.M.
Pt. Lookout
Capts. Jay & George Porter
(516) 889-8317

John Levitt of Old Westbury and Bob Fenno of East Rockaway took four bass, 15-25 lbs., on Lupo Bunker Spoons trolled from Capt. Ronnie Lepper's "Kim."

3¾ lbs. The H.A. Buoy area has loads of small football tuna and also produced a 275 lb. mako for Al Sreter on 7/4 and a 135¾ lb. mako for Anita Vitucci.

JAMAICA BAY

Noehren's Tackle Shop reports lots of blue claw crabs at the North Channel Bridge. Boaters at Marine Parkway Bridge are having very good fluking. There is a good showing of small porgies at the South Channel Bridge. A few stripers have been taken at night on sandworms at the North Channel Bridge.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Amberjack IV** is doing very well on fierce blues both day and night.

Capt. Tony of the **Wahoo III** reported bluefishing was terrific on Sunday. The action took place south southeast of Cholera. A nine man charter took 65 blues on smelt.

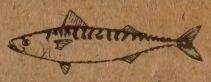
The **Mary** reported very good bluefishing at Three Sisters on Saturday night. The blues were tearing the bottom of the boat out. Fluking is very productive weekdays. These fish run 1-5 pounds.

Stella Maris Fishing Station reports lots of fluke at Riis Park, Coney Island Pier and Jamaica Bay on all tides. Blues and stripers are at Buoy 18 at Seagirt and are being trolled deep on umbrellas.

George at the **Bay End Dock** reports fluke are all over, from Jamaica Bay to Ambrose Channel. They are being taken on spearing and squid. Plenty of bass are being chummed at the Round House and trolled at the jetty. These fish run up to 20 lbs. plus there is an occasional lunker. Nice weaks were trolled off the jetty on bucktails. Some porgies are available off Coney Island and the Steeplechase Pier.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop** says the hot item is blues in the surf, from the Verrazano Bridge along the whole shore to the Great Kills area. These fish run to 17 lbs. and the average weight is 9-11 lbs. Sunset through sunrise is best and bunker or butterfish is the bait. These fish are bruisers. Two or better per man is the average. Striped bass fishing in the surf is very slow. Fluke fishing is holding steady. Great Kills Park jetties and Annadale twin piers are best for surfmen. Ten to 14 inch blues are all over the place and are taking any shiny lure. Watch for the birds. Blue claw crabs are in Great Kills Harbor, Lemon Creek and Princess Bay. Weakfish averaging 5 lbs. are available for boatmen drifting worms at Buoy 4, Annadale. They can be trolled at Flynn's Knoll on red tubes.



NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

Fred's had weakfish to 19 lbs. weighed in over the weekend and also striped bass to 21 lbs. Live eels are doing the job at area 3 at Sandy Hook Park.

The Chum Box reports stripers off Seabright on live bunker. Kenny Russo had one of 45 lbs. Fluking is still good off the old Coast Guard Station. Small blues are in Sandy Hook Bay and they are taking surgical tubes and Hopkins.

SEABRIGHT

Giglio's said the fishing is good all along the beach for bass. Rigged eels and live bunker are your best baits for stripers.

LONG BEACH

Monmouth Tackle reports weakfish are being taken off the jetties on Hopkins. Bass are hitting Pencil Poppers and swimming plugs. Car-toppers are hitting weaks on lead-heads. Fluking and snapper blue fishing is great in the rivers. Crabbing is excellent.

Steven's reported stripers are being taken on plugs, worms and calico crabs.

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Phone in your order— then pull into our dock & pick it up—No waiting!

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- Newest, Largest, Fastest, Fully Equipped Open Boat
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DAY & NIGHT BLUEFISHING

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Boats Limited—No Overcrowding!

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Sea Hunter

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FREEPORT'S LARGEST, FASTEST MOST MODERN ALL STEEL PARTY BOAT WITH 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE AT THE HELM

BIG BLUES

6:30A.M. EVERY DAY

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DON'T LET YOUR FISHING TRIP BE A SHUT OUT!!!

Take advantage of our

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WE GUARANTEE ACTION!

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CAPT. JACK VI

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FULL ELECTRONICS • TACKLE AVAIL.

FLUKE-FLUKE

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NITE BLUES—7:30PM

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NIGHT BLUES 7PM

Wed., Fri. & Sat. Nights

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BLUES • BLUES • BLUES

DAILY 6:30AM (Except Monday)

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CONNECTICUT SCENE

MILFORD

Bass are being taken at the Gun Club on live bunker. Fluke are taking squid and spinner combos. Porgies to 2½ lbs. are available two miles outside Charles Island. Schoolie bass are falling for poppers at daybreak at the Island.

STRATFORD

Fluke are taking squid and spinner rigs at Short Beach. Bass are slow. Blackfishing is fair. Harbor blues to 2½ lbs. are available at Charles Island. One pound porgies are at Can 9.

BRIDGEPORT

Small blues were taken on poppers at Pleasure Beach. Fluke are there as well. Squid and killies are the baits. Weakfishing is slow.

WESTPORT

Bass are being taken at night on Red Fins. Fish in the 20's and 30's are common. Try Penfield, the Island, Fayerweather and Burying Hill. Weaks are slow. Blacks and porgies are around.

NORWALK

Harbor blues are at the power plant. Bass to 18 lbs. are at Cockenoe and Brown's. Bunker and cut mackerel are the best baits. Bass fishermen are scoring on blues to 9 lbs. by accident. Schoolies are at the Islands and are falling for worms and bunker.

ROWAYTON

Blues to 16 lbs. and weaks to 8 lbs. have come in from the Sheffield area. Bait and jigs are best. Bass are there for the taking.

BYRAM

Bass on bunker and cut mackerel have come in from Island Beach, Captains and the Calf Islands. Attention given to the tides is the secret. Weaks are spotty, taken while bottom fishing for other species. Blacks are around any rock pile.

GREENWICH

Whole squid for bait was the secret one local angler used to take 24 bass up to 43 pounds in the Greenwich area. A 49 pounder fell for cut mackerel at the Tobbs Point. Blacks and porgies are great all over. Blues are off the Cows.

WHITE PLAINS

Bunker and mackerel are scoring here, too. Three bass over 30 lbs., one of 48 lbs., were taken at Scotch Caps. Rye and Larchmont were the best spots.

NEW ROCHELLE

Bass and blues are in the spotlight. Trolling worms and drifting bunker account for the bass. Plugs are taking blues. The word is "bass are all over." Blacks are thick, porgies are small.

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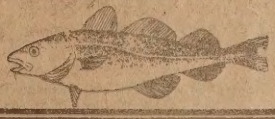

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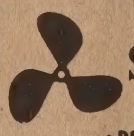

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM
7/11 THURSDAY	12:33	1:07	2:21	3:02	3:55	4:23	4:23	4:50
7/12 FRIDAY	1:19	1:56	3:11	3:49	4:45	5:14	5:14	5:41
7/13 SATURDAY	2:11	2:48	4:11	4:44	5:37	6:06	6:09	6:35
7/14 SUNDAY	3:12	3:50	5:07	5:36	6:37	7:05	7:09	7:32
7/15 MONDAY	4:21	4:57	6:08	6:30	7:39	8:06	8:07	8:28
7/16 TUESDAY	5:30	5:59	7:04	7:23	8:44	9:08	9:06	9:26
7/17 WEDNESDAY	6:32	6:55	7:59	8:15	9:53	10:11	10:02	10:19
7/18 THURSDAY	7:27	7:46	8:52	9:08	10:53	11:09	10:56	11:13

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0	50
Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05
MORICHES INLET	−0	56
Smith's Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potunck Point	+3	35
Mastic Beach	+3	28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0	38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0	38
Coast Guard Station	−0	19
Fire Island Light	+0	47
GREAT SOUTH BAY		
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Babylon	+2	12
Amityville	+2	21
JONES INLET	−0	19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
Freeport Creek	+0	34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0	38
JFK Airport	+0	26
STATEN ISLAND	+0	27
MANASQUAN	−0	12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0	14
Fort Pond Bay	−0	29
Montauk Inlet	−0	25
Montauk Point	−1	13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0	10
Execution Light	−0	06
Manhasset Bay	−0	01
Hempstead Harbor	−0	11
City Island	−0	03
Rye Beach	−0	28

PHASES OF THE MOON

7-19	7-26	7-4	7-12
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	−0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	+0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0	08
Herod Point	−0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	−0	20
Truman Beach	−0	42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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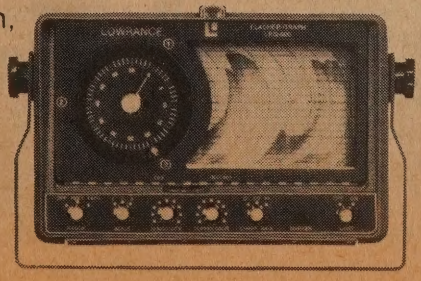

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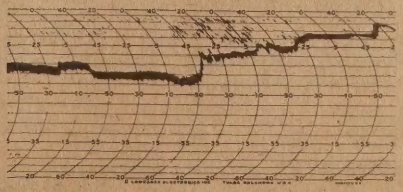

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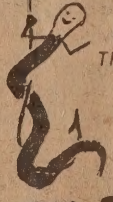

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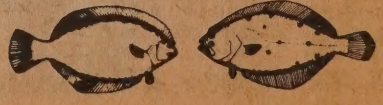

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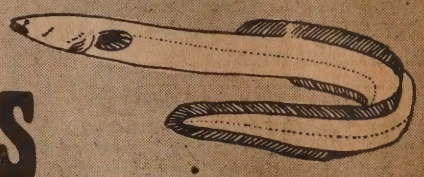

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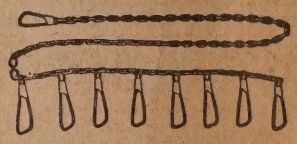

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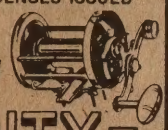

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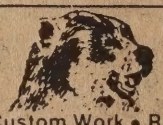

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SOLUNAR TABLES
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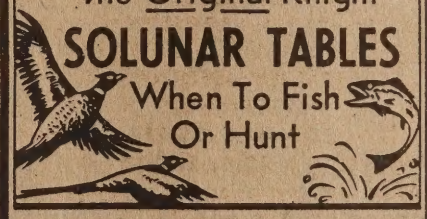

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

Thurs.	10:30	4:20	10:40	5:00
Fri.	11:15	5:25	11:35	5:50
Sat.	-	6:10	12:05	6:35
Sun.	12:20	6:55	12:50	7:50
Mon.	1:10	7:45	1:35	8:15
Tues.	1:55	8:40	2:30	9:10
Weds.	2:50	9:40	3:25	10:10
Thurs.	3:50	10:35	4:25	11:05

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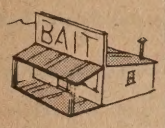

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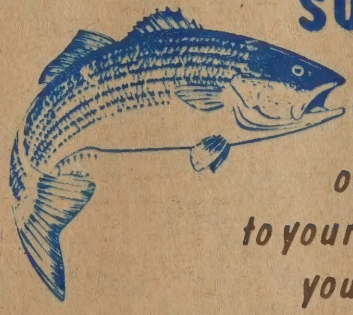

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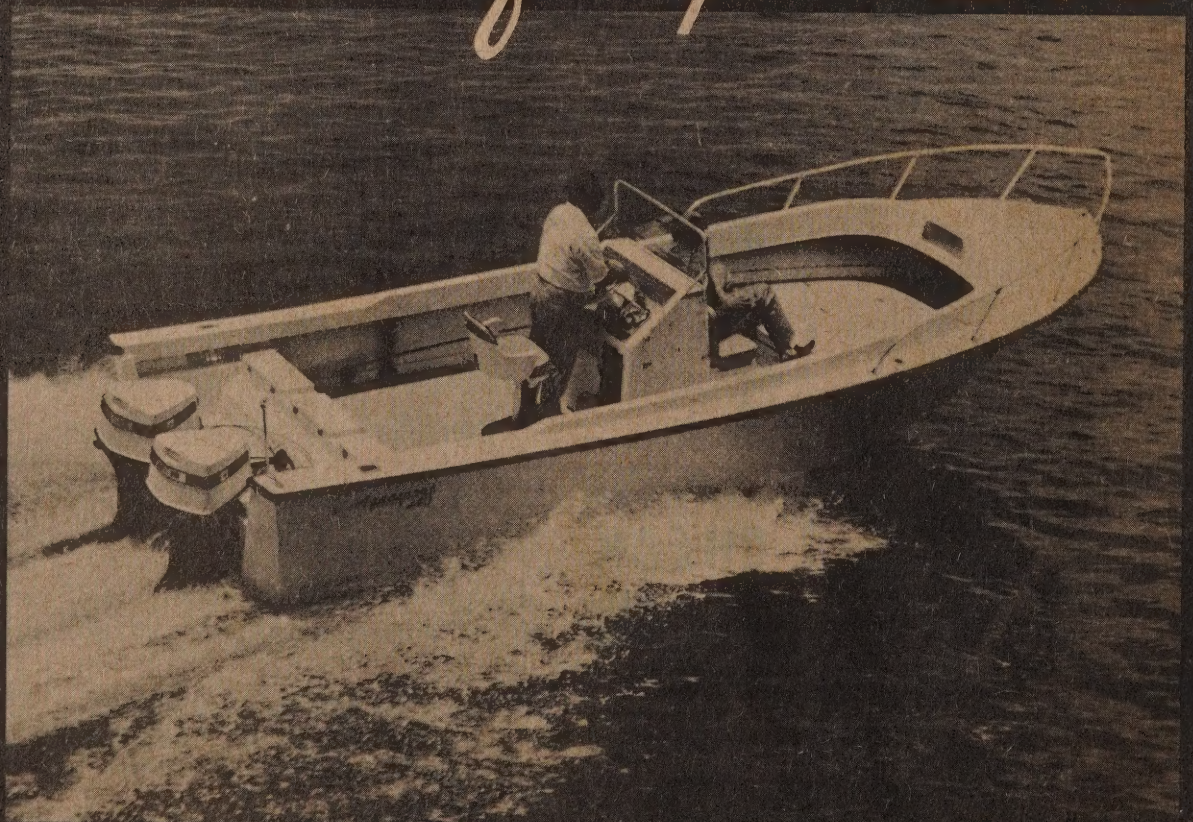

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